

PER

2. To pass through the whole extension.
Matter, once bereaved of motion, cannot of itself acquire it again, nor till it be struck by some other body from without, or be intrinsically moved by an immaterial self-active substance, that can penetrate and pervade it. *Bentley.*
What but God?
Pervades, adjusts and agitates the whole. *Thomson.*
PERVADION. *n. f.* [from *pervade*.] The act of pervading or passing through.
If fusion be made rather by the ingreſs and tranſcurſions of the atoms of fire, than by the bare propagation of that motion, with which fire heats upon the outside of the vessels, that contain the matter to be melted; both those kinds of fluidity, ascribed to saltpetre, will appear to be caused by the pervasion of a foreign body. *Boyle.*
PERVERSE. *adj.* [from *perverſus*, Lat.]
1. Distorted from the right.
And nature breeds
Perverſe, all monstrous, all prodigious things. *Milton.*
2. Obſtinate in the wrong; stubborn; untractable.
Then for the testimony of truth haſt born
Universal reproach; far worse to bear
Than violence; for this was all thy care
To stand approv'd in sight of God, though worlds
Judg'd thee perverse. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
To so perverse a sex all grace is vain,
It gives them courage to offend again. *Dryden.*
3. Pctulant; vexatious.
Oh gentle Romeo,
If thou doſt love, pronounce it faithfully,
Or if you think I am too quickly won,
I'll frown and be perverse, and say thee nay,
So thou wilt woo: but else not for the world. *Shakeſp.*
PERVERSELY. *adv.* [from *perverſe*.] With intent to vex;
peevishly; vexatiously; spitefully; crossly; with petty malignity.
Men perverseſely take up piques and displeasures at others,
and then every opinion of the disliked person must partake of his fate. *Decay of Piety.*
Men that do not perverseſely use their words, or on purpose set themselves to cavil, seldom mistake the signification of the names of simple ideas. *Locke.*
A patriot is a dangerous poſt,
When wanted by his country moſt,
Perverſely comes in evil times,
Where virtues are imputed crimes.
PERVERSENESS. *n. f.* [from *perverſe*.]
1. Peetulance; peevishness; spiteful crossness.
A wholesome tongue is a tree of life; *perverſeneſs* therein is a breach in the ſpirit. *Proverbs xv. 4.*
Virtue hath some perverseſeneſs; for she will
Neither believe her good, nor others ill. *Donne.*
He whom he wishes moſt, ſhall ſeldom gain
Through her perverseſeneſs; but ſhall ſee her gain'd
By a far worse. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
The perverseſeneſs of my fate is ſuch,
That he's not mine, becauſe he's mine too much. *Dryden.*
When a friend in kindeſs tries
To ſhew you where your error lies,
Conviction does but more incenſe;
Perverſeneſs is your whole defence. *Swift.*
2. Perverſion; corruption. Not in uſe.
Neither can this be meant of evil governors or tyrants;
for they are often eſtabliſhed as lawful potentates; but of
some perverseſeneſs and defection in the very nation itſelf. *Bacon.*
PERVENSION. *n. f.* [from *perverſion*, Fr. from *perverſe*.] The act
of perverting; change to ſomething worſe.
Women to govern men, ſlaves freemen, are much in the
ſame degree; all being total violations and *perverſions* of the
laws of nature and nations. *Bacon.*
He ſuppoſes that whole reverend body are ſo far from diſ-
liking popery, that the hopes of enjoying the abby lands
would be an effectual incitement to their *perverſion*. *Swift.*
PERVENSITY. *n. f.* [from *perverſus*, Fr. from *perverſe*.] Perverſe-
neſs; croſſneſs.
What ſtrange *perverſity* is this of man!
When 'twas a crime to taſte th' inlightning tree,
He could not then his hand refrain. *Norris.*
To PERVERT. *v. a.* [from *perverti*, Lat. *perverti*, Fr.]
1. To diſtort from the true end or purpoſe.
Inſtead of good they may work ill, and *pervert* juſtice to
extreme injuſtice. *Spencer's State of Ireland.*
If thou ſeeſt the oppreſſion of the poor, and violent *per-
verting* of juſtice in a province, marvel not. *Ecclef. v. 8.*
If thou his providence
Out of our evil ſeek to bring forth good,
Our labour muſt be to *pervert* that end,
And out of good ſtill to find means of evil. *Milton.*
He has *perverted* my meaning by his gloſſes; and inter-
preted my words into blaſphemy, of which they were not
guilty. *Dryden.*

PES

Porphyry has wrote a volume to explain this cave of the
nymphs with more piety than judgment; and another perſon
has *perverted* it into obſcenity; and both allegorically. *Broom.*
2. To corrupt; to turn from the right; oppoſed to convert,
which is to turn from the wrong to the right.
The heinous and deſpiteful act
Of Satan, done in Paradife, and how
He in the ſerpent had *perverted* Eve,
Her husband ſhe, to taſte the fatal fruit,
Was known in heav'n. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
PERVERTER. *n. f.* [from *pervert*.]
1. One that changes any thing from good to bad; a corrupter.
Where a child finds his own parents his *perverters*, he can-
not be ſo properly born, as damned into the world. *South.*
2. One who diſtorts any thing from the right purpoſe.
He that reads a prohibition in a divine law, had need be
well ſatiſfied about the ſenſe he gives it, leſt he incur the
wrath of God, and be found a *perverter* of his law. *Stillings.*
PERVERTIBLE. *adj.* [from *pervert*.] That may be eaſily
perverted. *Amſworth.*
PERVICACIOUS. *adj.* [from *pervixax*, Lat.] Spitefully obſtinate;
peeviſhly contumacious.
May private devotions be efficacious upon the mind of one
of the moſt *perviciouſ* young creatures! *Clarissa.*
PERVICACIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *perviciouſ*.] With ſpiteful
obſtinacy.
PERVICACIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *perviciouſ*, Lat. from *perviciouſ*.]
PERVICACITY. *n. f.* [from *perviciouſ*.] Spiteful obſtinacy.
PERVICACY. *n. f.* [from *perviciouſ*.] Spiteful obſtinacy.
PERVIOUS. *adj.* [from *pervius*, Latin.]
1. Admitting paſſage; capable of being permeated.
The Egyptians uſed to ſay, that unknown darkneſs is the
firſt principle of the world; by darkneſs they mean God,
whole ſecrets are *pervious* to no eye. *Taylor.*
Leda's twins
Conſpicuous both, and both in act to throw
Their trembling lances brandiſh'd at the foe,
Nor had they miſd; but he to thickets fled,
Conceal'd from aiming ſpears, not *pervious* to the ſteed. *Dryden.*
Thoſe lodged in other earth, more lax and *pervious*, de-
cayed in tract of time, and rotted at length. *Woodward.*
2. Pervading; permeating. This ſenſe is not proper.
What is this little, agile, *pervious* fire,
This flut'ring motion which we call the mind? *Prior.*
PERVIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *pervious*.] Quality of admitting
a paſſage.
The *perviousneſs* of our receiver to a body much more
ſubtle than air, proceeded partly from the looſer texture of
that glaſs the receiver was made of, and partly from the cot-
tomous heat, which opened the pores of the glaſs. *Egſt.*
There will be found another difference beſides that of *per-
viousneſs*. *Haller's Elements of Speech.*
PERUKE. *n. f.* [from *peruque*, Fr.] A cap of falſe hair; a perwig
I put him on a linen cap, and his *peruke* over that. *Wifeman.*
To PERUKE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To dreſs in aduſtitious
hair.
PERUKEMAKER. *n. f.* [from *peruke* and *maker*.] A maker of pe-
rukes; a wig-maker.
PERUSAL. [from *peruſe*.] The act of reading.
As pieces of miniature muſt be allowed a cloſer inſpection,
ſo this treatiſe requires application in the *peruſal*. *Woodward.*
If upon a new *peruſal* you think it is written in the very
ſpirit of the ancients, it deſerves your care, and is capable of
being improved. *Aitkenbury.*
To PERUSE. *v. a.* [from *peruſe*.] To read.
Peruſe this writing here, and thou ſhalt know
The treaſon. *Shakeſp. Richard II.*
The petitions being thus prepared, do you conſtantly ſet
apart an hour in a day to *peruſe* thoſe petitions. *Bacon.*
Carefully obſerve, whether he taſtes the diſtinguiſhing per-
fections or the ſpecifick qualities of the author whom he
peruſes. *Addiſon's Spectator, N° 409.*
2. To obſerve; to examine.
I hear the enemy;
Out ſome light horſemen, and *peruſe* their wings. *Shakeſp.*
I've *peruſ'd* her well;
Beauty and honour in her are ſo mingled,
That they have caught the king. *Shakeſp.*
Myſelf I then *peruſ'd*, and limb by limb
Survey'd. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
PERUSER. *n. f.* [from *peruſe*.] A reader; examiner.
The difficulties and heſitations of every one will be ac-
cording to the capacity of each *peruſer*, and as his penetra-
tion into nature is greater or leſs. *Woodward.*
PESADE. *n. f.*
Pefade is a motion a horſe makes in raiſing or liſting up his
forequarters, keeping his hind legs upon the ground without
ſtirring. *Farrier's Dict.*

PESSARY.

PES

PESSARY. *n. f.* [from *peſſarie*, Fr.] Is an oblong form of medicine,
made to thruſt up into the uterus upon ſome extraordinary
occasions.
Of cantharides he preſcribes five in a *peſſary*, cutting off
their heads and feet, mixt with myrrh. *Arbutnot.*
PEST. *n. f.* [from *peſte*, Fr. *peſtis*, Lat.]
1. Plague; peſtilence.
Let fierce Achilles
The god propitiate, and the *peſt* aſſuage. *Pope.*
2. Any thing miſchievous or deſtructive.
The *peſt* a virgin's face and boſom bears,
High on her crown a riſing ſnake appears,
Guards her black front, and hiſſes in her hairs. *Pope.*
At her words the heliſh *peſt*
Forbore. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*
Of all virtues juſtice is the beſt;
Valour without it is a common *peſt*. *Waller.*
To PESTER. *v. a.* [from *peſter*, Fr.]
1. To diſturb; to perplex; to haraſs; to turmoil.
Who then ſhall blame
His *peſter'd* ſenſes to recoil and ſtart,
When all that is within him does condemn
Itſelf for being there. *Shakeſp.*
He hath not fail'd to *peſter* us with meſſage,
Importing the ſurrender of thoſe lands. *Shakeſp.*
We are *peſtered* with mice and rats, and to this end the
cat is very ſerviceable. *More's Antidote againſt Atheiſm.*
They did ſo much *peſter* the church and groſſly delude the
people, that contradictions themſelves aſſerted by Rabbits were
equally revered by them as the inſallible will of God. *South's Sermons.*
A multitude of ſcribblers daily *peſter* the world with their
inſufferable ſtuff. *Dryden.*
At home he was purſu'd with noiſe;
Abroad was *peſter'd* by the boys. *Swift.*
2. To encumber.
Fitches and peafe
For *peſtering* too much on a hovel they lay.
Confin'd and *peſter'd* in this pinfold here,
Strive to keep up a frail and feveriſh being. *Milton.*
PESTERER. *n. f.* [from *peſter*.] One that peſters or diſturb.
PESTERING. *adj.* [from *peſter*.] Encumbering; cumberſome.
In the ſtatute againſt vagabonds note the diſlike the par-
liament had of goading them, as that which was chargeable,
peſtering, and of no open example. *Bacon's Henry VII.*
PESTHOUSE. *n. f.* [from *peſt* and *houſe*.] An hoſpital for per-
ſons infected with the plague.
PESTIFEROUS. *adj.* [from *peſtifer*, Lat.]
1. Deſtructive; miſchievous.
Such is thy audacious wickedneſs,
Thy leud, *peſtiferous* and diſſentious pranks,
The very infants prattle of thy pride.
You, that have diſcover'd ſecrets, and made ſuch *peſtiſe-
rous* reports of men nobly held, muſt die. *Shakeſp.*
2. Peſtilential; malignant; infectious.
It is eaſy to conceive how the ſteam of *peſtiferous* bodies
taint the air, while they are alive and hot. *Arbutnot.*
PESTILENCE. *n. f.* [from *peſtilentia*, Fr. *peſtilentia*, Lat.] Plague;
peſt; contagious diſtemper.
The red *peſtilence* ſtrike all trades in Rome,
And occupations periſh. *Shakeſp.*
When my eyes beheld Olivia firſt,
Methought ſhe purg'd the air of *peſtilence*. *Shakeſp.*
PESTILENT. *adj.* [from *peſtilent*, Fr. *peſtilens*, Lat.]
1. Producing plague; malignant.
Great ringing of bells in populous cities diſſipated *peſtilent*
air, which may be from the conſuſion of the air, and not
from the ſound. *Bacon's Natural Hiſtory.*
To thoſe people that dwell under or near the equator, a
perpetual ſpring would be a moſt *peſtilent* and inſupportable
ſummer. *Bentley's Sermons.*
2. Miſchievous; deſtructive.
There is nothing more contagious and *peſtilent* than ſome
kinds of harmony; than ſome nothing more ſtrong and potent
unto good. *Hooker, b. v. f. 38.*
Hoary moulded bread the ſoldiers thruſting upon their
ſpears rail'd againſt king Ferdinand, who with ſuch corrupt
and *peſtilent* bread would feed them. *Kneller.*
Which preſident, of *peſtilent* import,
Againſt thee, Henry, had been brought. *Daniel.*
The world abounds with *peſtilent* books, written againſt
this doctrine. *Swift's Miſcellanies.*
3. In ludicrous language, it is uſed to exaggerate the meaning
of another word.
One *peſtilent* fine,
His beard no bigger though than thine,
Walked on before the reit. *Suckling.*
PESTILENTIAL. *adj.* [from *peſtilentia*, Fr. *peſtilens*, Lat.]
1. Partaking of the nature of peſtilence; producing peſtilence;
infectious; contagious.
Theſe with the air paſſing into the lungs, infect the maſs
of blood, and lay the foundation of *peſtilential* fevers. *Woodw.*

PET

Fire involv'd
In *peſtilential* vapours, ſtrench and ſmoke. *Addiſon.*
2. Miſchievous; deſtructive; pernicious.
If government depends upon religion, then this ſhews the
peſtilential deſign of thoſe that attempt to diſjoin the civil and
eccleſiaſtical intereſts. *South's Sermons.*
PESTILENTLY. *adv.* [from *peſtilent*.] Miſchievously; de-
ſtructively.
PESTILLATION. *n. f.* [from *peſtillum*, Lat.] The act of pounding
or breaking in a mortar.
The beſt diamonds are comminable, and ſo far from
breaking hammers, that they ſubmit unto *peſtillation*, and re-
ſiſt not any ordinary peſtle. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
PESTLE. *n. f.* [from *peſtillum*, Lat.] An inſtrument with which
any thing is broken in a mortar.
What real alteration can the beating of the *peſtle* make in
any body, but of the texture of it. *Locke.*
Upon our vegetable food the teeth and jaws act as the *peſtle*
and mortar. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
PESTLE of Pork. *n. f.* A gammon of bacon. *Amſ.*
PET. *n. f.* [This word is of doubtful etymology; from *peſtis*,
Fr. or *impetus*, Lat. perhaps it may be derived ſome way
from *petis*, as it implies only a little ſume or fret.]
1. A ſlight paſſion; a ſlight fit of anger.
If all the world
Should in a *pet* of temperance feed on pulſe,
Drink the clear ſtream, and nothing wear but freeze,
Th' all-giver would be unthankt, would be unprais'd. *Milton.*
If we cannot obtain every vain thing we aſk, our next bu-
ſineſs is to take *pet* at the refusal. *L'Eſtrang.*
Life, given for noble purpoſes, muſt not be thrown up in
a *pet*, nor whined away in love. *Catlier.*
They cauſe the proud their viſits to delay,
And ſend the godly in a *pet* to pray. *Pope.*
2. A lamb taken into the houſe, and brought up by hand. A
cade lamb. [Probably from *petis*, little.] *Hammer.*
PETAL. *n. f.* [from *petalum*, Latin.]
Petal is a term in botany, ſignifying thoſe fine coloured
leaves that compoſe the flowers of all plants: whence plants
are diſtinguiſhed into monopetalous, whole flower is one con-
tinued leaf; tripetalous, pentapetalous and polypetalous,
when they conſiſt of three, five or many leaves. *Quincy.*
PETALOUS. *adj.* [from *petal*.] Having petals.
PETAR. *n. f.* [from *petard*, Fr. *petardo*, Italian.]
PETARD. *n. f.* [from *petard*.] An engine of metal, almoſt in the ſhape of an
hat, about ſeven inches deep, and about five inches over at
the mouth: when charged with fine powder well beaten, it
is covered with a madrier or plank, bound down faſt with
ropes, running through handles, which are round the rim
near the mouth of it: this *petard* is applied to gates or bar-
riers of ſuch places as are deſigned to be ſurprized, to blow
them up; they are alſo uſed in countermines to break through
into the enemies galleries. *Military Dict.*
'Tis the ſport to have the engineer
Hoſt with his own *petard*. *Shakeſp.*
Find all his having and his holding,
Reduc'd to eternal noiſe and ſcolding;
The conjugal *petard* that tears
Down all portcullices of ears. *Hudibras.*
PETECHIAL. *adj.* [from *petechia*, Lat.] Peſtilentially ſpotted.
In London are many fevers with buboes and carbuncles,
and many *petechial* or ſpotted fevers. *Arbutnot.*
PETTER-WORT. *n. f.* This plant differs from St. John's-wort,
only in having a pyramidal ſeed-veſſel, divided into five
cells. *Miller.*
PETIT. *adj.* [French.] Small; inconfiderable.
By what ſmall *petit* hints does the mind recover a vaniſhing
notion? *South's Sermons.*
PETITION. *n. f.* [from *petitio*, Latin.]
1. Requeſt; intreaty; ſupplication; prayer.
We muſt propoſe unto all men certain *petitions* incident
and very material in cauſes of this nature. *Hooker.*
My next poor *petition*
Is, that his noble grace would have ſome pity
Upon my wretched women. *Shakeſp.*
Let my life be given at my *petition*, and my people at my
requeſt. *Eſther vii. 3.*
Thou diſt chooſe this houſe to be called by thy name, and
to be a houſe of prayer and *petition* for thy people. *1 Mac. vii.*
2. Single branch or article of a prayer.
Then pray'd that the might ſtill poſſeſs his heart,
And no pretending rival ſhare a part;
This laſt *petition* heard of all her pray'r. *Dryden.*
To PETITION. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To ſolicit; to ſup-
plicate.
You have *petition'd* all the gods
For my proſperity. *Shakeſp. Coriolanus.*
The mother *petitioned* her goddeſs to beſtow upon them the
greateſt gift that could be given. *Addiſon.*

PETITIONARILY.